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From: Han, Linda (DPH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 03, 2010 11:42 AM
To: Rubin, Alan (DPH); Kane01, Peter (DPH); Clemmer, Jill (DPH); Belanger, Peter (DPH); Borne, Alan (DPH); Wang, Xingtai (DPH); Stiles, Tracy (DPH); Salemi, Charles (DPH)
Cc: Nassif, Julianne (DPH); Smole, Sandra (DPH); Caloggero, Dina (DPH); Nagle, Austin (DPH)
Subject: FW: BMC safety RFR

Hi all:

As you may have heard, we've recently started on an occupational health and lab safety assessment with BMC/UMASS Amherst Occupational Health. Their objectives are (1) to help us set up an occ health system for response to exposures to various infectious diseases/chemicals that would require expertise beyond what we might expect to find at the ER of NE Baptist Hospital – for example, what to do if a glass storage vial of *Francisella tularensis* breaks, and (2) to have a look at our existing lab safety practices (what respiratory protection is needed with what testing, who needs to be vaccinated for what, how do we inform lab visitors of what to do if they develop a fever after visiting the lab, etc etc).

Maureen OLeary (UMASS Amherst) will be in the lab on Thursday March 4 to meet individually with lab supervisors to better understand the types of testing that occur in the lab, how specimens are handled, laboratory-specific safety practices, etc etc. She will be assessing the labs in order to help us understand in what areas we are all set, and in what areas we need more work-- She will NOT be acting in any sort of regulatory capacity.

Austin will be contacting you to set up 0.5-1.5 hr slots to meet with her in your labs.

Thanks in advance for your help with this. We've only met with this group once so far and it has already been extremely helpful.

Linda